

THE SILVER MINES OF NEVADA
TERRE TORI.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune.

AUSTIN, N. T., Tuesday, Aug. 16, 1864.

Although a long way from New-York and other civilized communities, we are not "out of the world." We are in the world—or subversives, i.e.: we are in the mineral world. Just as New-York is in the commercial world. But here it may be argued, the similarity ends, for while New-York is the acknowledged center of the commercial world, Austin can make no pretensions to being center to the mineral world. Not so fast. Austin may even now be the center of the mineral world, as a fact, but not known or acknowledged fact. The mineral wealth of Austin, (and when I say Austin I mean the Reese River country) is not generally known; in fact, the time that has elapsed since the discovery of minerals here, has been too short to develop to any great extent its mineral wealth. The mineral here consists principally of silver, which is found, not as the tree gold of the California placer mines, but in "ledges," answering to what usually un-terested in California as "gold bearing quartz ledges."

EXTENT AND LOCALITY OF THE MINES.

But before proceeding further, it might be important to give you some idea of the extent and location of the Reese River mines—mines that are destined to become familiar to the readers of public journals hereafter.

The Reese River mines are located about four hundred miles west of Salt Lake and about three hundred miles east of Sacramento, Cal., and almost due west lies east and west between the two places. The city of Austin is located on the Overland Mail Road, about sixty miles south of the Humboldt River and some eight miles east of the Reese River. Its present population, judging from the number of votes polled at its last (municipal) election (1,600) may safely be put down at five thousand. It enjoys a city corporation, and, at present, owing to its efficient police, is an orderly and well-regulated city.

The mines—whether gold, silver or copper—as to location and original appropriation are generally, I may say, always, on the Pacific coast—with the United States—governed by certain rules and regulations made by the miners themselves at public meetings when each has a voice and a vote; a democracy as you will provide as simple if not as pure as in the palmy days of the Republics of ancient Greece. When a discovery is made after a sufficient number have come upon the ground—a public meeting is called and the bounds of the district are defined and the laws to be observed in the taking up, working and holding of claims (each mine when located is called a "claim") and framed by a committee and voted on and adopted by the meeting. These rules are general thing are few and simple. The State Legislature usually provides that these laws shall be recognized by the courts in adjudicating upon mining rights—they constitute the common law of the mines without the acts fixed by Blackstone for Common Law in England—where the steps to the good common law must be sold that the "memory of man runneth not to the contrary" which might often happen without any great care—it is not that it must not have an origin within the memory of one.

These laws usually provide how many feet each person may take up or locate, which is generally 30 feet along the ledge, including ample space on each side thereof for working purposes. Districts vary in size. This (Reese River District) is ten miles wide and how long (E. & W.) I am not prepared to say—probably one hundred miles; but this is not practically so, for no mines are located E. and W. in the district a greater distance than ten or fifteen miles. N. and S. the localities are consecutive with the district. The only property-developed ledges are in this district. Considering this the central district, I will now speak of other districts, and will begin on the north side. First is the Amador District, partly formed out of territory taken from this district, has some very rich ledges partially developed. It lies from ten to fifteen miles north. Next comes Mt. Hope District, still further north, and adjoining Amador; and still farther north is Mt. Vernon District. In both these districts a large number of ledges of great width and promise have been located, but capital is wanting for their development. But little work as yet has been done. The last-named is perhaps between twenty-five and thirty miles north of Austin. There is then a large scope of country lying north of Mt. Vernon and south of Corcoran District, considered, as far, destitute of mineral. Corcoran District lies on the first range of hills or mountains south of the Humboldt River, and about sixty miles north of Austin. The discoveries there were made late last fall, but were of such great promise as to induce San Francisco capital to place there a stamp mill, which has already commenced to crush or pulverize the metal-bearing rock, but with what result is not known here. The rock is thought to be rich enough to amply remunerate the heavy outlay of capital and labor already expended.

There is a district newly discovered, lying some miles West of Corcoran, and perhaps eighty miles from Austin, called the New-York District; but it is in the hands of a few enterprising prospectors who seem disposed to give but little information regarding it. Direction, and first South of Austin is Simpson's Park District; next Big Creek District, Bunker Hill, Summit Santa Fe, Smoky Valley and Washington, all within thirty to forty miles South, and all containing some rich silver-bearing ledges. Big Creek has two quartz mills, Washington one, and Smoky Valley one in course of erection. Still further South (S. W.) is Union District, embracing some ledges of extraordinary richness. Still further (S. E.) is San Antonio District. These Districts are sixty and eighty miles distant from Austin. There is still another District South, called the Maryville District, but it is one hundred miles distant, and I consider it partially out of my neighborhood, though its prospectors make Austin their headquarters. I ought to have mentioned in this connection two other Districts: Mountain Wells, about fifty miles West, and Cimarron, some thirty miles still farther West. The only mines East are at Egan Canon (Canon), about one hundred and twenty East on the Overland Mail Road. This may serve to give you some idea of the extent as well as location of what is generally known as the Reese River mines. The prevailing metal in the mountain deserts, a mineral world and is not Austin its center? But its wealth, the richness of the ledges there are questions about which you want more information. As to the extent and number of the mines there seems no doubt.

As before intimated, it takes time and capital to develop, &c., ascertain the value of a silver mine. In this district some of the ledges have been sufficiently developed to test their real wealth. This is not usually done short of the water-line—from one to two hundred feet. There are many hundreds whose owners feel sanguine of rich ledges as yet developed.

What will be our future—what the developments of another twelve months may produce, is a subject which the deepest a conjecture may not fathom. Two short years ago the passenger of the overland stage coach passed over our hills without ever dreaming that untold wealth lay buried beneath the unbroken surface—now deep cuts, shafts and tunnels pierce the mountain sides for miles around. On account of the difficulties in commanding the process of working the ore, where everything is so expensive, and required to be hauled on wagons over three hundred miles at a freight cost of sixteen and twenty cents per pound, as yet, the amount of bullion extracted is comparatively small, but in this department the improvements in our mills, give promise that soon our billion shipments will reach a respectable figure.

HOW MINES ARE OWNED AND WORKED.
It is thought by a great many not informed on the project, that to own and work in it is necessary to live and be personally present at the place where they are located. Such, however, is a great mistake. But few, at least comparatively few, who are owners in claims or mines, stock companies or corporations, mostly the latter. The corporation may be formed under the laws of this Territory or that of any State or country. The corporation generally employs a specie

tendon who employs mining laborers and directs and controls the labor. The labor is generally employed on the ledge. A suitable point for operating is selected and a shaft sunk down on the ledge far enough to determine its value. If it proves well, work is continued down till pay rock is reached, when the mine is considered prospected or developed.

This rock is carefully placed on a pile by itself and taken to a quartz mill and crushed, and the metal extracted. Up to this time, the expense of the labor and work on the mine must be borne by the stockholders of the Corporation or owners of the mine. This expense is levied on the Stock, pro rata. After pay-rock is reached, it is supposed that the mine will pay all expenses and make returns to the owners or stockholders. I would not have any one so simple as to suppose that all claims which are worked, reach pay-rock and all Mining Corporations pay dividends. Mining at best, is to a great extent an uncertain business—not exactly uncertain as a business, but uncertain as to the acquisition of a paying ledge.

CITY GOVERNMENT.

Bond of Conscription.
STATED SABADO, Thursday, Oct. 13, 1864, 2 o'clock p.m.

The Board met, pursuant to adjournment, in their Chamber, No. 16 City Hall.

President James Hayes, esq., President, in the chair, and the following members:

Councilman Healy, Keenan, Riley, Brophy, Haggerty, Hayes, Webster, Heffernan, Ryan, Gross, Repper, Foster, Houghalen, Haviland, McGrath, O'Dwyer, Jaques, Schaefer, Cook, Brandon, Brice, Russell and Fitzgerald—33.

Resolved, That the following named places be designated for the polls of election in the Third Fifth and Eighth Wards, Third Alameda District, until otherwise ordered by the Common Council:

First Ward, Boulton, Haviland, McGrath, Schaefer, Cook, Brandon, Brice, Russell and Fitzgerald—21.

The President—That the Clerk of the Common Council be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw its warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.

Which was referred to the Committee on Donations and Charities.

Report of Committee on Finance, with resolution, that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of George F. Pease, Esq., Auditor of the Comptroller, being authorized and directed to charge the amount so paid to the amount of \$100.